

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 01186 271123Z

15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 L-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /118 W

----- 015098

R 271110Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6408

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMAY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1186

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DM, FR

SUBJ: FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARDS DAHOMEY

1. FRENCH AMB VAN GREVENYNGHE MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO ME ON GOF ATTITUDE TOWARDS DAHOMEY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE HELD IN PARIS JULY 17-18. FRENCH AID WILL CONTINUE AT PRESENT LEVELS WITH NO EFFORTS REDUCE OR INCREASE. HOWEVER, MRGD IS "SKATING ON THIN ICE" IF IT SHOULD GO FURTHER THAN PRESENT MILDLY ANTI-FRENCH ATTITUDES WITH OCCASIONAL INCIDENT LIKE RECENT EXPULSION OF FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER DIRECTOR. (SEE COTONOU 1003)

2. VAN GREVENYNGHE SAID THERE IS A DEFINITE LIMIT TO GISCARD'S LEVEL OF TOLERANCE OF ANTI-FRENCH GESTURES BY SMALL POOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE NOT SURE HIMSELF WHERE BREAKING POINT LIES EXACTLY. BUT, BELIEVES ONE SERIOUS INCIDENT COULD PRECIPITATE ABRUPT ACTION BY GOF, WHICH LIKELY INCLUDE TERMINATION OF ALL OR MOST OF BADLY NEEDED FRENCH AID TO DAHOMEY.

3. AMB TRYING TO COMMUNICATE SENSE OF DANGER TO DAHOMEANS WITHOUT GIVING IMPRESSION OF THREAT. HE AWARE ANY SUGGESTION OF THREAT BY FRANCE WOULD PLAY INTO HANDS OF EXTREMISTS WHO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COTONO 01186 271123Z

COULD EXPLOIT DAHOMEAN SENSITIVITIES TO PRECIPITATE CHAIN

REACTION ENDING IN FORCING FRENCH HAND.  
MCNAMARA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, CIVIL DISORDERS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974COTONO01186  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740204-0886  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740712/aaaaajze.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARDS DAHOMEY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, DM, FR, (VAN GREVENYNGHE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005